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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

AMY COTTELEER, an Individual,)	CASE NO.: 2:23-cv-10247-RGK-KES
)	
Plaintiff,)	
)	AMENDED STIPULATED
vs.)	PROTECTIVE ORDER
)	
U.S. BANCORP dba U.S. BANK)	Complaint Filed: December 6, 2023
HOME MORTGAGE a business entity,)	
form unknown; EXPERIAN)	
INFORMATION SOLUTIONS INC., is)	
a business entity, form unknown;)	
EQUIFAX INFORMATION)	
SERVICES, LLC., is a business entity,)	
form unknown; TRANSUNION, LLC, a)	
business entity, form unknown and)	
DOES 1-25, Inclusive,)	
)	
Defendants.)	

1. 1.

2. A. PURPOSES AND LIMITATIONS

3. Discovery in this action is likely to involve production of confidential,
4. proprietary, or private information for which special protection from public disclosure
5. and from use for any purpose other than prosecuting this litigation may be warranted.
6. Accordingly, the parties hereby stipulate to and petition the Court to enter the
7. following Stipulated Protective Order. The parties acknowledge that this Order does
8. not confer blanket protections on all disclosures or responses to discovery and that the
9. protection it affords from public disclosure and use extends only to the limited
10. information or items that are entitled to confidential treatment under the applicable
11. legal principles. The parties further acknowledge, as set forth in Section 12.3, below,
12. that this Stipulated Protective Order does not entitle them to file confidential
13. information under seal; Civil Local Rule 79-5 sets forth the procedures that must be
14. followed and the standards that will be applied when a party seeks permission from
15. the court to file material under seal.

16. B. GOOD CAUSE STATEMENT

17. This action is likely to involve trade secrets, commercial, financial, and/or
18. proprietary information for which special protection from public disclosure and from
19. use for any purpose other than prosecution of this action is warranted. Such
20. confidential and proprietary materials and information consist of, among other things,
21. confidential business or financial information, information regarding confidential
22. business practices, or other commercial information otherwise generally unavailable
23. to the public, or which may be privileged or otherwise protected from disclosure under
24. state or federal statutes, court rules, case decisions, or common law. Among other
25. things, the parties anticipate production of the following categories of protected
26. information: (1) the defendants' policies and procedures; (2) confidential financial and
27. credit information; and (3) information regarding the defendants' proprietary account
28. servicing systems and software.

Accordingly, to expedite the flow of information, to facilitate the prompt resolution of disputes over confidentiality of discovery materials, to adequately protect information the parties are entitled to keep confidential, to ensure that the parties are permitted reasonable necessary uses of such material in preparation for and in the conduct of trial, to address their handling at the end of the litigation, and serve the ends of justice, a protective order for such information is justified in this matter. It is the intent of the parties that information will not be designated as confidential for tactical reasons and that nothing be so designated without a good faith belief that it has been maintained in a confidential, non-public manner, and there is good cause why it should not be part of the public record of this case.

2. DEFINITIONS

2.1 Action: this pending federal law suit, entitled *Amy Cotteleer v. U.S. Bancorp, et al.*, Case No. 2:23-cv-10247-RGK-KES.

2.2 Challenging Party: a Party or Non-Party that challenges the designation of information or items under this Order.

2.3 “CONFIDENTIAL” Information or Items: information (regardless of how it is generated, stored or maintained) or tangible things that qualify for protection under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(c), and as specified above in the Good Cause Statement.

2.4 “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL -- ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY” Information or Items: extremely sensitive “CONFIDENTIAL” Information or Items, the disclosure of which to another Party or Non-Party would create a substantial risk of serious harm that could not be avoided by less restrictive means.

2.5 Counsel: Outside Counsel of Record and House Counsel (as well as their support staff).

2.6 Designating Party: a Party or Non-Party that designates information or items that it produces in disclosures or in responses to discovery as

1 “CONFIDENTIAL” or “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL -- ATTORNEYS’ EYES
2 ONLY.”

3 2.7 Disclosure or Discovery Material: all items or information, regardless of
4 the medium or manner in which it is generated, stored, or maintained (including,
5 among other things, testimony, transcripts, and tangible things), that are produced or
6 generated in disclosures or responses to discovery in this matter.

7 2.8 Expert: a person with specialized knowledge or experience in a matter
8 pertinent to the litigation who has been retained by a Party or its counsel to serve as an
9 expert witness or as a consultant in this Action.

10 2.9 House Counsel: attorneys who are employees of a party to this Action.
11 House Counsel does not include Outside Counsel of Record or any other outside
12 counsel.

13 2.10 Non-Party: any natural person, partnership, corporation, association, or
14 other legal entity not named as a Party to this action.

15 2.11 Outside Counsel of Record: attorneys who are not employees of a party
16 to this Action but are retained to represent or advise a party to this Action and have
17 appeared in this Action on behalf of that party or are affiliated with a law firm which
18 has appeared on behalf of that party, and includes support staff.

19 2.12 Party: any party to this Action, including all of its officers, directors,
20 employees, consultants, retained experts, and Outside Counsel of Record (and their
21 support staffs).

22 2.13 Producing Party: a Party or Non-Party that produces Disclosure or
23 Discovery Material in this Action.

24 2.14 Professional Vendors: persons or entities that provide litigation support
25 services (e.g., photocopying, videotaping, translating, preparing exhibits or
26 demonstrations, and organizing, storing, or retrieving data in any form or medium)
27 and their employees and subcontractors.
28

1 2.15 Protected Material: any Disclosure or Discovery Material that is
2 designated as “CONFIDENTIAL” or “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL -- ATTORNEYS’
3 EYES ONLY.”

4 2.16 Receiving Party: a Party that receives Disclosure or Discovery Material
5 from a Producing Party.

6
7 3. SCOPE

8 The protections conferred by this Stipulation and Order cover not only
9 Protected Material (as defined above), but also (1) any information copied or extracted
10 from Protected Material; (2) all copies, excerpts, summaries, or compilations of
11 Protected Material; and (3) any testimony, conversations, or presentations by Parties
12 or their Counsel that might reveal Protected Material.

13 Any use of Protected Material at trial shall be governed by the orders of the trial
14 judge. This Order does not govern the use of Protected Material at trial.

15 The designation of “Highly Confidential—Attorney’s Eyes Only” shall apply to
16 all personal financial records subpoenaed by counsel for US Bank regarding the
17 plaintiff, until at least the 45-day period following US Bank’s counsel’s providing of
18 any subpoenaed records to plaintiff’s counsel elapses. Thereafter, for those
19 documents which do not maintain the “Highly Confidential—Attorney’s Eyes Only”
20 designation, such documents shall still maintain the designation of “Confidential”
21 under this protective order.

22 4. DURATION

23 Even after final disposition of this litigation, the confidentiality obligations
24 imposed by this Order shall remain in effect until a Designating Party agrees
25 otherwise in writing or a court order otherwise directs. Final disposition shall be
26 deemed to be the later of (1) dismissal of all claims and defenses in this Action, with
27 or without prejudice; and (2) final judgment herein after the completion and
28 exhaustion of all appeals, rehearings, remands, trials, or reviews of this Action,

1 including the time limits for filing any motions or applications for extension of time
2 pursuant to applicable law.

3
4 5. DESIGNATING PROTECTED MATERIAL

5 5.1 Exercise of Restraint and Care in Designating Material for Protection.

6 Each Party or Non-Party that designates information or items for protection under this
7 Order must take care to limit any such designation to specific material that qualifies
8 under the appropriate standards. The Designating Party must designate for protection
9 only those parts of material, documents, items, or oral or written communications that
10 qualify so that other portions of the material, documents, items, or communications
11 for which protection is not warranted are not swept unjustifiably within the ambit of
12 this Order.

13 Mass, indiscriminate, or routinized designations are prohibited. Designations
14 that are shown to be clearly unjustified or that have been made for an improper
15 purpose (e.g., to unnecessarily encumber the case development process or to impose
16 unnecessary expenses and burdens on other parties) may expose the Designating Party
17 to sanctions.

18 If it comes to a Designating Party's attention that information or items that it
19 designated for protection do not qualify for protection, that Designating Party must
20 promptly notify all other Parties that it is withdrawing the inapplicable designation.

21 5.2 Manner and Timing of Designations. Except as otherwise provided in
22 this Order (see, e.g., second paragraph of section 5.2(a) below), or as otherwise
23 stipulated or ordered, Disclosure or Discovery Material that qualifies for protection
24 under this Order must be clearly so designated before the material is disclosed or
25 produced.

26 Designation in conformity with this Order requires:

27 (a) for information in documentary form (e.g., paper or electronic documents,
28 but excluding transcripts of depositions or other pretrial or trial proceedings), that the

1 Producing Party affix at a minimum, the legend “CONFIDENTIAL” or “HIGHLY
2 CONFIDENTIAL -- ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY”, to each page that contains
3 protected material. If only a portion or portions of the material on a page qualifies for
4 protection, the Producing Party also must clearly identify the protected portion(s)
5 (e.g., by making appropriate markings in the margins).

6 A Party or Non-Party that makes original documents available for inspection
7 need not designate them for protection until after the inspecting Party has indicated
8 which documents it would like copied and produced. During the inspection and before
9 the designation, all of the material made available for inspection shall be deemed
10 “CONFIDENTIAL.” After the inspecting Party has identified the documents it wants
11 copied and produced, the Producing Party must determine which documents, or
12 portions thereof, qualify for protection under this Order. Then, before producing the
13 specified documents, the Producing Party must affix the “CONFIDENTIAL” or
14 “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL -- ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY” legend to each page
15 that contains Protected Material. If only a portion or portions of the material on a page
16 qualifies for protection, the Producing Party also must clearly identify the protected
17 portion(s) (e.g., by making appropriate markings in the margins).

18 (b) for testimony given in depositions that the Designating Party identify the
19 Disclosure or Discovery Material on the record, before the close of the deposition all
20 protected testimony.

21 (c) for information produced in some form other than documentary and for any
22 other tangible items, that the Producing Party affix in a prominent place on the
23 exterior of the container or containers in which the information is stored the legend
24 “CONFIDENTIAL” or “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL -- ATTORNEYS’ EYES
25 ONLY.” If only a portion or portions of the information warrants protection, the
26 Producing Party, to the extent practicable, shall identify the protected portion(s).

27 5.3 Inadvertent Failures to Designate. If timely corrected, an inadvertent
28 failure to designate qualified information or items does not, standing alone, waive the

Designating Party's right to secure protection under this Order for such material.

Upon timely correction of a designation, the Receiving Party must make reasonable efforts to assure that the material is treated in accordance with the provisions of this Order.

6. CHALLENGING CONFIDENTIALITY DESIGNATIONS

6.1 Timing of Challenges. Any Party or Non-Party may challenge a designation of confidentiality at any time that is consistent with the Court's Scheduling Order.

6.2 Meet and Confer. The Challenging Party shall initiate the dispute resolution process under Local Rule 37.1 et seq. or follow the procedures for informal, telephonic discovery hearings on the Court's website. 6.3 The burden of persuasion in any such challenge proceeding shall be on the Designating Party. Frivolous challenges, and those made for an improper purpose (e.g., to harass or impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on other parties) may expose the Challenging Party to sanctions. Unless the Designating Party has waived or withdrawn the confidentiality designation, all parties shall continue to afford the material in question the level of protection to which it is entitled under the Producing Party's designation until the Court rules on the challenge.

7. ACCESS TO AND USE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL

7.1 Basic Principles. A Receiving Party may use Protected Material that is disclosed or produced by another Party or by a Non-Party in connection with this Action only for prosecuting, defending, or attempting to settle this Action. Such Protected Material may be disclosed only to the categories of persons and under the conditions described in this Order. When the Action has been terminated, a Receiving Party must comply with the provisions of section 13 below (FINAL DISPOSITION).

1 Protected Material must be stored and maintained by a Receiving Party at a
2 location and in a secure manner that ensures that access is limited to the persons
3 authorized under this Order.

4 7.2 Disclosure of “CONFIDENTIAL” Information or Items. Unless
5 otherwise ordered by the court or permitted in writing by the Designating Party, a
6 Receiving Party may disclose any information or item designated “CONFIDENTIAL”
7 only to:

8 (a) the Receiving Party’s Outside Counsel of Record in this Action, as well
9 as employees of said Outside Counsel of Record to whom it is reasonably necessary to
10 disclose the information for this Action;

11 (b) the officers, directors, and employees (including House Counsel) of the
12 Receiving Party to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action;

13 (c) Experts (as defined in this Order) of the Receiving Party to whom
14 disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action and who have signed the
15 “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

16 (d) the court and its personnel;

17 (e) court reporters and their staff;

18 (f) professional jury or trial consultants, mock jurors, and Professional
19 Vendors to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action and who have
20 signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

21 (g) the author or recipient of a document containing the information or a
22 custodian or other person who otherwise possessed or knew the information;

23 (h) during their depositions, witnesses ,and attorneys for witnesses, in the
24 Action to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary provided: (1) the deposing party
25 requests that the witness sign the form attached as Exhibit 1 hereto; and (2) they will
26 not be permitted to keep any confidential information unless they sign the
27 “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A), unless otherwise agreed
28 by the Designating Party or ordered by the court. Pages of transcribed deposition

testimony or exhibits to depositions that reveal Protected Material may be separately bound by the court reporter and may not be disclosed to anyone except as permitted under this Stipulated Protective Order; and

(i) any mediator or settlement officer, and their supporting personnel, mutually agreed upon by any of the parties engaged in settlement discussions.

7.3 Disclosure of “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL -- ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY” Information or Items. Unless otherwise ordered by the court or permitted in writing by the Designating Party, a Receiving Party may disclose any information or item designated “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL” only to:

(a) the Receiving Party’s Outside Counsel of Record in this Action, as well as employees of said Outside Counsel of Record to whom it is reasonably necessary to disclose the information for this Action, or Plaintiff to the extent the HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL information relates to her financial statements or other records belonging to Plaintiff;

(b) Experts (as defined in this Order) of the Receiving Party to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action and who have signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

(c) the court and its personnel;

(d) private court reporters and their staff to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action and who have signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

(e) any mediator or settlement officer, and their supporting personnel, mutually agreed upon by any of the parties engaged in settlement discussions.

8. PROTECTED MATERIAL SUBPOENAED OR ORDERED PRODUCED IN OTHER LITIGATION

If a Party is served with a subpoena or a court order issued in other litigation that compels disclosure of any information or items designated in this Action as

“CONFIDENTIAL” or “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL -- ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY,” that Party must:

(a) promptly notify in writing the Designating Party. Such notification shall include a copy of the subpoena or court order;

(b) promptly notify in writing the party who caused the subpoena or order to issue in the other litigation that some or all of the material covered by the subpoena or order is subject to this Protective Order. Such notification shall include a copy of this Stipulated Protective Order; and

(c) cooperate with respect to all reasonable procedures sought to be pursued by the Designating Party whose Protected Material may be affected.

If the Designating Party timely seeks a protective order, the Party served with the subpoena or court order shall not produce any information designated in this action as “CONFIDENTIAL” or “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL -- ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY” before a determination by the court from which the subpoena or order issued, unless the Party has obtained the Designating Party’s permission. The Designating Party shall bear the burden and expense of seeking protection in that court of its confidential material and nothing in these provisions should be construed as authorizing or encouraging a Receiving Party in this Action to disobey a lawful directive from another court.

9. A NON-PARTY’S PROTECTED MATERIAL SOUGHT TO BE PRODUCED IN THIS LITIGATION

(a) The terms of this Order are applicable to information produced by a Non-Party in this Action and designated as “CONFIDENTIAL” Or “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL -- ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY.” Such information produced by Non-Parties in connection with this litigation is protected by the remedies and relief provided by this Order. Nothing in these provisions should be construed as prohibiting a Non-Party from seeking additional protections.

(b) In the event that a Party is required, by a valid discovery request, to produce a Non-Party's confidential information in its possession, and the Party is subject to an agreement with the Non-Party not to produce the Non-Party's confidential information, then the Party shall:

(1) promptly notify in writing the Requesting Party and the Non-Party that some or all of the information requested is subject to a confidentiality agreement with a Non-Party;

(2) promptly provide the Non-Party with a copy of the Stipulated Protective Order in this Action, the relevant discovery request(s), and a reasonably specific description of the information requested; and

(3) make the information requested available for inspection by the Non Party, if requested.

(c) If the Non-Party fails to seek a protective order from this court within 14 days of receiving the notice and accompanying information, the Receiving Party may produce the Non-Party's confidential information responsive to the discovery request. If the Non-Party timely seeks a protective order, the Receiving Party shall not produce any information in its possession or control that is subject to the confidentiality agreement with the Non-Party before a determination by the court. Absent a court order to the contrary, the Non-Party shall bear the burden and expense of seeking protection in this court of its Protected Material.

10. UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL

If a Receiving Party learns that, by inadvertence or otherwise, it has disclosed Protected Material to any person or in any circumstance not authorized under this Stipulated Protective Order, the Receiving Party must immediately (a) notify in writing the Designating Party of the unauthorized disclosures, (b) use its best efforts to retrieve all unauthorized copies of the Protected Material, (c) inform the person or persons to whom unauthorized disclosures were made of all the terms of this Order,

and (d) request such person or persons to execute the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” that is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

11. INADVERTENT PRODUCTION OF PRIVILEGED OR OTHERWISE PROTECTED MATERIAL

When a Producing Party gives notice to Receiving Parties that certain inadvertently produced material is subject to a claim of privilege or other protection, the obligations of the Receiving Parties are those set forth in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(b)(5)(B). This provision is not intended to modify whatever procedure may be established in an e-discovery order that provides for production without prior privilege review. Pursuant to Federal Rule of Evidence 502(d) and (e), insofar as the parties reach an agreement on the effect of disclosure of a communication or information covered by the attorney-client privilege or work product protection, the parties may incorporate their agreement in the stipulated protective order submitted to the court.

12. MISCELLANEOUS

12.1 Right to Further Relief. Nothing in this Order abridges the right of any person to seek its modification by the Court in the future.

12.2 Right to Assert Other Objections. By stipulating to the entry of this Protective Order no Party waives any right it otherwise would have to object to disclosing or producing any information or item on any ground not addressed in this Stipulated Protective Order. Similarly, no Party waives any right to object on any ground to use in evidence of any of the material covered by this Protective Order.

12.3 Filing Protected Material. A Party that seeks to file under seal any Protected Material must comply with Civil Local Rule 79-5. Protected Material may only be filed under seal pursuant to a court order authorizing the sealing of the specific Protected Material at issue. If a Party's request to file Protected Material

1 under seal is denied by the court, then the Receiving Party may file the information in
2 the public record unless otherwise instructed by the court.

3
4 13. FINAL DISPOSITION

5 After the final disposition of this Action, as defined in paragraph 4, within 60
6 days of a written request by the Designating Party, each Receiving Party must return
7 all Protected Material to the Producing Party or destroy such material. As used in this
8 subdivision, “all Protected Material” includes all copies, abstracts, compilations,
9 summaries, and any other format reproducing or capturing any of the Protected
10 Material. Whether the Protected Material is returned or destroyed, the Receiving Party
11 must submit a written certification to the Producing Party (and, if not the same person
12 or entity, to the Designating Party) by the 60 day deadline that (1) identifies (by
13 category, where appropriate) all the Protected Material that was returned or destroyed
14 and (2) affirms that the Receiving Party has not retained any copies, abstracts,
15 compilations, summaries or any other format reproducing or capturing any of the
16 Protected Material. Notwithstanding this provision, Counsel are entitled to retain an
17 archival copy of all pleadings, motion papers, trial, deposition, and hearing transcripts,
18 legal memoranda, correspondence, deposition and trial exhibits, expert reports,
19 attorney work product, and consultant and expert work product, even if such materials
20 contain Protected Material. Any such archival copies that contain or constitute
21 Protected Material remain subject to this Protective Order as set forth in Section 4
22 (DURATION).

23 14. Any violation of this Order may be punished by any and all appropriate
24 measures including, without limitation, contempt proceedings and/or monetary
25 sanctions.

26 IT IS SO STIPULATED, THROUGH COUNSEL OF RECORD.

27 //

28 (SIGNATURES CONTINUE ON NEXT PAGE)

Locke Lord LLP
101 Montgomery Street, Suite 1950
San Francisco, CA 94104

1 DATED: June 7, 2024

2 /s/ Lindsey E. Kress

3 Lindsey E. Kress

4 Attorneys for Defendant U.S. Bank National Association

5 DATED: June 7, 2024

6 /s/ Robert Brennan

7 Robert Brennan

8 Attorneys for Plaintiff Amy Cotteleer

9 DATED: June 7, 2024

10 /s/ Jennifer Wade

11 Jennifer Wade

12 Attorneys for Defendant Trans Union LLC

13 DATED: June 7, 2024

14 /s/ Thomas Quinn

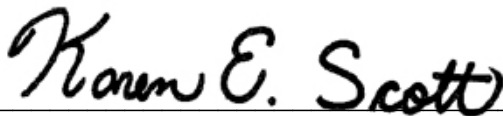
15 Alice M. Hodsen

16 Thomas Quinn

17 Attorneys for Defendant Equifax Information Services LLC

18
19
20 FOR GOOD CAUSE SHOWN, IT IS SO ORDERED.

21 DATED: June 10, 2024

22 

23
24 Karen E. Scott

25 United States District/Magistrate Judge

EXHIBIT A

ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND AGREEMENT TO BE BOUND

I, _____ [print or type full name], of
 _____ [print or type full address], declare under penalty of perjury
 that I have read in its entirety and understand the Stipulated Protective Order that was
 issued by the United States District Court for the Central District of California on
 _____ [date] in the case of *Amy Cotteleer v. U.S. Bancorp, et al.*, Case No. 2:23-
 cv-10247-RGK-KES. I agree to comply with and to be bound by all the terms of this
 Stipulated Protective Order and I understand and acknowledge that failure to so
 comply could expose me to sanctions and punishment in the nature of contempt. I
 solemnly promise that I will not disclose in any manner any information or item that is
 subject to this Stipulated Protective Order to any person or entity except in strict
 compliance with the provisions of this Order.

I further agree to submit to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court
 for the Central District of California for the purpose of enforcing the terms of this
 Stipulated Protective Order, even if such enforcement proceedings occur after
 termination of this action. I hereby appoint _____ [print or type full
 name] of _____ [print or type full address and
 telephone number] as my California agent for service of process in connection with
 this action or any proceedings related to enforcement of this Stipulated Protective
 Order.

Date: _____

City and State where sworn and signed: _____

Printed name: _____

Signature: _____